IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Signature of Person Mailing

Appl. No.

10/677,712

Cnfrm. No.

9172

Applicant Filed

Jason S. Erdie

October 2, 2003

Title

Self-Locking End Cap

TC/A.U.

3727

Examiner

Gary E. Elkins

Docket No.

EPT-14902

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of April 8, 2005 (Paper No./Mail Date 20050407), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

IFW